

### **REMARKS**

In the Office Action of March 11, 2009, the Examiner rejected all pending claims 1 - 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0124389 to Phillips or U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0015075 to Wright, et al. In this response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, and 6-10, cancelled claims 3-5 and 11-30, and added new claims 31-42. Thus, claims 1, 2, 6-10, and 31-42 are currently pending.

As explained by Applicants' counsel during the interview, the cited prior art lacks many limitations of the pending claims. For example, Phillips does not disclose or suggest, in combination with other claimed features, a valve member "generally enclosing inside of the second portion a first generally longitudinal fluid pathway and a second generally transverse fluid pathway," nor "a seal extending generally around a portion of the second portion of the valve member," nor "at least a portion of the biasing member generally surrounding at least a portion of the first proximal portion of the valve member, the biasing member being separate from the seal." Thus, for at least these reasons, the pending claims are patentable over the cited references.

Applicants believe that they have addressed all of the issues in the Office Action. If the Examiner believes that any issue remains outstanding, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact their undersigned patent counsel at the telephone number below to seek a resolution as expeditiously as possible.

Also, by way of confirmation, Applicants note that the phrase "female luer end portion of a medical accessory" as recited in the final portion of Claim 1 is not an element of the claim. The phrase is merely used in Claim 1 to assist in describing certain functional and structural properties of the claimed male luer medical connector.

#### No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure,

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including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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By: Paul N. Conover

Paul N. Conover  
Registration No. 44,087  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20995  
(949) 760-0404

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